

# GARBAGE and RECYCLING

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**Customer Service: (817) 392-EASY (3279)**

**Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

**Saturday, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

- ☐ **Pickup Schedules**
- ☐ **Household Garbage Collection**
- ☐ **Recycling Collection**
- ☐ **Bulky Items Collection**
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## ☐ Pickup Schedules

### What is the pickup schedule for garbage, recycling, yard trimmings and brush?

These items are picked up weekly (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday) according to your schedule. Bulky items are picked up on a monthly basis according to a city schedule. Call (817) 392-EASY (3279) or visit [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem). Note: Actual pickups times may vary based on weather conditions and other factors. During or after severe weather, check the city's Web site: [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem).

### How do I find out my weekly pickup day?

Call (817) 392-EASY (3279) or visit [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem).

### Who do I contact if my garbage does not get picked up?

Please call (817) 392-EASY (3279). Reports of missed collections must be made no later than the end of the next day following your scheduled day of service.

### Please note:

There is no garbage, recycling, yard trimmings, brush or bulky items pickup on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day or New Year's Day. If your scheduled pickup day falls on one of the above holidays garbage, recycling and yard trimmings will be picked up the next day. For the rest of the week, all pickup days after the holiday shift one day. Bad weather may also slow or postpone service. If postponed, the holiday schedule will apply. After Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day, you may place up to two extra 30-gallon bags of garbage (40 lb. limit per bag) outside the cart on your first pickup day.

**Holiday Pickup  
(Example)**

Regular Pickup	Holiday Falls on	Holiday Pickup
Wednesday	Thursday	No Change
Thursday	Thursday	Friday
Friday	Thursday	Saturday

## ☐ Household Garbage Collection

### How do I set out my garbage?

- All garbage must be in plastic bags, contained within the brown garbage cart.
- Place the brown garbage cart on the curb no later than 7 a.m. on your pickup day. Set out cart no earlier than 6 p.m. the night before your pickup day.
- All bags must fit inside the cart with the lid completely closed. Bagged garbage placed outside the cart will not be collected, unless the bags are official city-approved pay bags or the two extra bags after the three holidays listed above.
- To move the cart, make sure the lid is closed. Hold the cart handle and tip the cart back on its wheels before attempting to push or roll.
- Do not drag or roll the cart with the lid open.
- On slopes: push the cart when going downhill; pull the cart when going uphill.

### Garbage Disposal

Call (817) 392-EASY (3279) for:

- Pickup Information
- Reporting a Missed Pickup
- Garbage Cart Exchange or Repair
- Bulky Items Information
- Purchase Pay Bags for Extra Garbage (optional)

### Household Hazardous Waste

Environmental Collection Center

6400 Bridge St.

Fort Worth, TX 76112

(817) 392-3279

[www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem)

Hours:

Thursday - Friday: 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

### Free Used Paints, Cleansers, Automotive Products

(817) 871-5257

### Mobile Collection Unit

"Crud Cruiser" Neighborhood Schedule

(817) 392-6268 (recording)

### Drop-off Stations for Recycling, Garbage, Bulky Items and Electronics

(817) 392-EASY (3279)

[www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem)

Hours:

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

- Place cart on or near the curb so that the handle/lid hinge is facing away from the street. Do not put your cart in the street.
- Place cart at least two feet from other carts, utility poles, trees, gas or water meters, fire hydrants, cars, sprinkler heads or other items that collection equipment could damage.
- Remove cart from curb after collection no later than midnight on your pickup day.
- Per city ordinance, store carts so they're not visible to a person standing in front of the residence. Improper cart storage may result in a citation or fine.

### How do I report problems or violations?

Call Customer Service at (817) 392-EASY (3279) from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday - Friday and Saturday 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### What items will collectors not pick up?

Collection crews will not pick up electronic equipment such as TVs or computers. Call (817) 392-3279 for disposal options. Also, crews cannot pick up hazardous chemicals such as swimming pool chemicals, acids, caustics, poisons, flammables, bleach, fluorescent light bulbs and motor oils. Dispose of these items at the Environmental Collection Center, 6400 Bridge St. Call (817) 392-3279 for hours of operation, directions and a complete list of materials accepted or visit: [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem).

<p><b>Recycling</b></p> <p><b>Recycling Information or Missed Pickup Service Inquiries</b></p> <p><b>Recycling Cart Repair</b></p> <p><b>Call: (817) 392-EASY (3279)</b></p>
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### How should I dispose of cooking oil or grease?

If it is a small amount (i.e. less than a pint), pour it into a container and when cool, seal the container and put it in a plastic garbage bag inside the brown garbage cart for pickup. Do not pour oil or grease down your sink because it will lead to sewer backups. You can also take large amounts of used oil or grease to the Environmental Collection Center for recycling.

### What does household garbage pickup cost?

Fees are based on the size of garbage cart you select. The deposit and monthly fees are included on the water bill under "sanitation." Choose the right size for your needs for weekly residential curbside garbage service from the following:

- 32-gallon garbage cart
- 64-gallon garbage cart
- 96-gallon garbage cart

Please call 817-392-3279 for current rates or check out [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem).

Texas sales tax applies. Sanitation services are categorized as real property services and are therefore taxable under state law.

### Prices above include:

- Weekly garbage pickup in a city-issued brown garbage cart
- Weekly recycling pickup in a city-issued blue recycling cart
- Weekly yard trimmings and brush pickup: Leaves and small yard trimmings must either be in a brown paper yard bag or in an optional purchased green yard cart. Small limbs may be bundled. Loose brush is limited to 10 cubic yards per week.
- Monthly bulky items pickup (up to 10 cubic yards)
- Drop-off station use
- Dead animal removal
- Illegal dump clean up citywide
- Public education

If you move, leave the blue and brown cart(s) behind. Garbage and recycling carts are property of the City of Fort Worth and are registered to the address to which they were delivered. If you purchased a green yard cart, it is your property and may be removed from the residence.

#### **Additional/optional services - Call Customer Service at (817) 392-EASY (3279)**

- Yard Carts: Weekly yard trimmings pickup in city-issued green 96-gallon yard cart: one-time cart purchase fee\*/no additional monthly service fee. Purchase price also includes cart repair.
- To clean the cart, use a garden hose to rinse. Cleanliness of the cart is the resident's responsibility.
- Disabled carryout service: No extra charge with doctor's verification. An application must be submitted.
- Repair of the garbage or recycling carts damaged by normal wear and tear is covered by the city at no charge. For service call (817)392-EASY (3279) or visit [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem)
- Residential carryout service: \$30 per month plus the monthly fee for the cart.
- Official city pay bags for extra garbage: five bag minimum order

\* Plus Texas sales tax

#### **What is disabled or residential carryout service?**

Residents may arrange to have garbage and recycling carts picked up and returned closer to the home, such as at a side door or near a garage door. These services do not include yard trimmings collections from the home; that service remains a curbside service. Disabled carryout is provided at no additional charge with approved application. The optional residential carryout service does have an additional charge. For information, call (817) 392-EASY (3279).

#### **Does the city provide information on garbage in Spanish?**

Yes. For Spanish literature or if you have questions that need to be answered in Spanish, call (817) 392-3279.

## **❑ Recycling Collection - Weekly**

Recycling pickup is provided weekly as an optional collection service. The city receives a rebate for good or usable recyclables. This money goes into the Solid Waste Fund and helps keep sanitation costs as low as possible.

#### **How does the program work?**

A blue recycling cart is provided for weekly pickup. Set out the cart no earlier than 6 p.m. the night before your pickup day. Place the cart at the curb by 7 a.m. on your pickup day. Collection crews will empty recyclables from the cart and leave the cart at the curb for reuse.

#### **How to use your recycling cart**

- Follow the city's recycling list and place loose, mixed recyclables in the blue cart. Do **not** bag items.
- Follow the instructions on prior pages for brown garbage cart movement and set out.

#### **What can I place in the blue recycling cart?**

Detailed instructions about the materials below are provided at [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem) or you may call Customer Service at (817) 392-EASY (3279).

#### **Paper**

*Paper clips and staples are OK.*

- Advertising circulars
- Carbonless paper
- Cardboard—cereal boxes (liners removed), soda and beer cartons, dry goods packaging, corrugated cardboard, paper towel and toilet paper cores. Large boxes must be broken down or cut to fit inside the cart.
- Catalogs

- Envelopes—with or without windows
- Junk mail
- Magazines
- Newspapers—all sections
- Office paper—file folders, letterhead, sticky notes, printer paper, calendars, school papers
- Paperback books
- Paper bags
- Phone books

### **Metal Containers**

*Please rinse. Labels are OK.*

- Aluminum drink cans—do not flatten
- Steel or tin food cans and lids
- Empty aerosol cans—leave spray nozzle on; remove plastic lid unless part of the can
- Steel paint cans—must be empty and dry; a thin skin of dry paint on bottom and sides is OK; remove lids and recycle them, too

### **Glass Containers**

*Please rinse. All colors accepted. Labels are OK. Broken glass is OK.*

- Bottles and jars—remove metal and plastic lids and recycle
- Windowpanes—no auto glass

### **Plastic Containers**

*Please rinse. All colors accepted. Labels are OK.*

- Bottles, cups and jars—with #1 through #7 recycling symbols on bottom of container (except Styrofoam®); remove caps and lids and recycle those, too
- Food trays, tubs and bowls—with #1 through #7 recycling symbols on bottom of container (except Styrofoam®)
- Plastic eating utensils—clean

### **What items are not recyclable in Fort Worth's curbside program?**

- Household garbage
- Aluminum foil
- Auto glass
- Clothing
- Drink boxes and straws
- Electronics or TVs
- Greeting cards
- Hard cover books
- Light bulbs of any kind
- Medical waste
- Paper milk and juice cartons
- Pizza boxes
- Plastic containers that held hazardous materials such as motor oil, paint, pesticide or weed killer
  - Throw empty household chemical containers in the garbage. (Dispose of leftover household chemicals for free at the Environmental Collection Center, 6400 Bridge St. Call (817) 392-3279 for hours of operation, directions and a complete list of materials accepted or visit: [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem))
- Plastic grocery sacks, dry cleaning bags
- Toys
- Styrofoam® cups, plates, formed packing or "packing peanuts"
- Waxed paper and waxed food containers
- Wrapping paper

- Yard trimmings
- Garden hoses
- Any item with food contamination

This is not a complete list of items that are not included in Fort Worth's curbside recycling program. Please assume that if an item is not listed in the item to recycle list it is not in our program or call (817) 392-EASY (3279) for clarification.

Please consider donating usable items to a charity.

#### **What if I do not have a blue recycling cart?**

Call Customer Service at (817) 392-EASY (3279).

## **❑ Yard Trimmings and Brush Collection - Weekly**

#### **What can I set out for yard trimmings and brush pickup?**

- Unlimited bundles of small limbs cut to less than 4 feet in length. Bundles should be no more than 18 inches around and weigh no more than 40 pounds.
- Loose limbs and tree trimmings no longer than 8 feet in length and less than 4 inches in diameter. Pile size limit is 10 cubic yards or approximately 8 feet long, 6 feet wide and 6 feet tall (about the size of a Volkswagen Beetle car).

#### **How do I set out my weekly yard trimmings and brush?**

1. Place leaves, grass clippings and small twigs into customer-purchased paper yard bags and roll down the top of the bag to close.
2. Place paper yard bags, bundles, loose brush and optional yard carts on the curb no later than 7 a.m. on your pickup day and no earlier than 6 p.m. the night before your pickup day.
3. There is no limit on the number of paper yard bags or properly bundled limbs that may be set out on your pickup day.
4. Layer limbs in neat, tight stacks on the curb. Bundled limbs must not be more than four feet in length with individual limbs no larger than four inches in diameter. Loose brush piles should be no larger than 10 cubic yards (8' x 6' x 6'). You will be charged extra for collection of larger loose brush piles.
5. A separate yard trimmings collection truck will pick up these items and take them to a mulching facility.
6. DO NOT place yard trimmings or brush in the blue recycling cart.

#### **What items will yard trimmings collectors not pick up?**

- No yard trimmings, grass or leaves in plastic bags
- No garbage
- No root balls or stumps
- No tree limbs greater than 4 inches in diameter and/or 8 feet in length (these will be picked up during monthly bulk collection)

#### **Where can I buy 30-gallon paper yard bags?**

- Grocery stores
- Home improvement stores
- Garden centers
- Drug stores
- Discount stores

#### **Tips for using paper yard bags**

- Open bag, lay bag on its side and rake leaves or yard trimmings inside
- Set bag upright; the flat bottom allows the bag to stand by itself

- Pack down leaves for maximum capacity
- No need to be gentle. Paper bags are strong and don't easily split like plastic bags
- Don't fill bag to the very top; leave about five inches to roll closed (like a lunch sack)

#### **How can I purchase an optional green, 96-gallon yard cart?**

Call (817) 392-3279

#### **What does weekly yard trimmings pickup cost?**

There is no additional charge for this service. It is included in the "sanitation" fee on your monthly water bill.

### **❑ Bulky Items Collection - Monthly**

#### **How can I get my bulky items picked up?**

The city picks up bulky items monthly according to a set schedule. Call (817) 392-EASY (3279) for details or visit [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem).

#### **What can I set out for bulky items pickup?**

Items that are too large, heavy or bulky to fit in the garbage cart, such as:

- Appliances that do not contain refrigerant, gasoline or other chemicals\*
- Fencing/lumber
- Furniture, mattresses and sofas
- Remodeling debris from small projects performed by the resident at the address where materials are set out
- Root balls or stumps
- Tree limbs larger than 4 inches in diameter

*\*For refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners, a copy of a receipt from a certified technician is required to prove refrigerant (Freon®) has been safely removed.*

#### **What items will bulky items crews not pick up?**

- Appliances that contain refrigerant, gasoline or other chemicals, including air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers and lawnmowers
- Automobile parts and car batteries
- Contractor-generated remodeling and demolition debris such as shingles, tiles, wallboard and lumber. (Tip: When residents hire contractors to perform remodeling work, they should verify that their estimate includes disposal or landfill fees.)
- Electronics such as computers and televisions
- Paints, liquids, poisons, explosives or other hazardous wastes
- Rocks and concrete
- Small, loose items
- Sheetrock
- Roofing Shingles
- Tires
- Glass doors or windows

#### **How much can I set out each month?**

Residents may set out up to 10 cubic yards of bulky items, which is approximately 8 feet long, 6 feet wide and 6 feet tall (about the size of a Volkswagen Beetle car) each month. Residents will be charged \$65 for every 5 cubic yards over this limit plus a one-time \$10 administrative fee. Maximum legal pile size that crews will pick up is 30 cubic yards.



## ❑ **Drop-off Stations for Recycling, Garbage, Brush, Bulky Items and Electronics**

### **How do I drop off recyclables, garbage, brush, bulky items or electronics?**

The city has several free drop-off stations for recycling, garbage and bulky items. Drop-off stations are open to homeowners and renters for disposal of recyclables, as well as old tires (limit four per household every six months), furniture, TVs, computers, electronics, minor remodeling debris, brush and yard trimmings. To use a drop-off station, residents must show a recent Fort Worth water bill, a current driver's license or other official ID with a Fort Worth address. Not accepted are: business waste or hazardous waste, double-axle trailers, and vehicles identified with business names.

### **What are the Drop-off Station locations?**

- 2400 Brennan Ave. (west of I-35W off North Side Drive)
- 5150 Martin Luther King Jr. Freeway (exit Village Creek off U.S. Hwy 287)
- 6260 Old Hemphill Road (South of Loop 820/I-20, West of I-35W at Alta Mesa Blvd. off I-35W)

### **What are the Drop-off Station hours of operation?**

- Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### **What can I drop off at these locations?**

- Appliances containing coolant
- Recyclables \*
- Bagged garbage \*
- Bulky items \*
- Computers (working or not)
- Electronics, including computers and up to two TVs per household every six months (working or not)
- Yard trimmings including leaves, grass, brush, limbs and stumps
- Tires (up to four passenger tires per household every six months)

\* See related sections for detailed lists

### **What can't I drop off at these locations?**

- Explosives or ammunition
- Gasoline, oil, antifreeze or other household hazardous waste
- Major construction and demolition debris (more than 10 cubic yards)
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Rocks, dirt or concrete
- Roofing shingles
- Waste from businesses or commercial activities

### **What about computers and electronics?**

Computers and electronics are accepted. Also, up to two televisions per household every six months.

### **How do the drop-off stations work?**

Residents must unload their own materials and place them in the appropriate container(s). City workers check identification and direct residents to separate containers for recyclables, bulky items, brush and bagged garbage. Children under age 12 and pets must remain in the vehicle.



## **Disposing of Household Hazardous Waste**

Residents of Fort Worth and several other communities have two free options for disposing of leftover household chemicals:

- Environmental Collection Center
- “Crud Cruiser” Neighborhood Mobile Collection Unit

### **What kinds of materials may I dispose of?**

Acids, aerosol cans, antifreeze, batteries of all kinds, brake fluid, cleansers, cooking oils, craft chemicals, degreasers, drain cleaner, fertilizer, fluorescent light bulbs (do not break), herbicides, household chemicals, motor oil, paints, stains, thinners, pest strips, pesticides, pharmaceuticals (old medicines), photo chemicals, pool chemicals, oil filters, solvents, transmission fluid, varnish and mercury thermometers.

### **What is not accepted?**

Ammunition, appliances, asbestos, brush, tires, building materials, butane cylinders, computers, electronics, explosives, waste containing polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs), propane cylinders, radioactive material, smoke alarms, syringes and tubing, televisions or tires.

### **Where is the Environmental Collection Center and when is it open?**

The center is located at 6400 Bridge St. in east Fort Worth. It is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

### **What does it cost to use the center?**

It is free to Fort Worth residents who show proof of residency with a recent water bill or driver's license or other official ID with a Fort Worth address. This will be used to verify your active sanitation account.

### **What does the Environmental Collection Center do with usable leftover paint, cleansers, oil and other hazardous products?**

The center offers some reusable materials to residents at no charge. These materials are on a first come, first serve basis. Other materials are recycled or disposed of in an environmentally safe manner.

### **What is the “Crud Cruiser” or Mobile Collection Unit?**

The Crud Cruiser is a mobile collection vehicle that comes to designated neighborhoods in Fort Worth to collect household chemicals from residents. Visit [www.fortworthgov.org/dem](http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem) for collection dates and locations, or call (817) 392-6268. Crud Cruiser events are on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Occasionally, weather conditions force a cancellation.

### **What should I do with materials the Environmental Collection Center or “Crud Cruiser” will not accept?**

For instructions on how to dispose of many kinds of waste and other items, visit the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Web site at [www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/nav/consumer\\_info.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/nav/consumer_info.html).

## **Landfills**

### **What are the rules for using the Southeast Landfill?**

The city's Southeast Landfill is operated by Allied Waste Industries under a contract with the city. Allied operates the site as one of their own sites. The following are their company policies for public use:

- All users of the landfill, including residents of Fort Worth will pay landfill disposal fees.
- Properly secure your load so that it does not litter streets or highways. State law requires all loads to have a tarp or cover.
- All drivers are required to use designated access routes to and from the landfill unloading area.
- After processing at the scale house, vehicles shall proceed to the unloading area. Upon reaching the

unloading area, drivers shall make eye contact with either the spotter, or if the spotter is not on duty, with the compactor operator and follow his instructions on where to discharge your load.

- The Southeast Landfill is a designated hard hat and safety vest area. When outside your vehicle, you **must** wear a hard hat and a high visibility safety vest (or high-visibility uniform). If you do not have a hard hat or safety vest, they are sold at the landfill or you may borrow one upon providing a deposit.
- Smoking is not allowed outside vehicles while at the landfill.
- While at the unloading area, customers must remain within 5 feet of their vehicle.
- Per state law, landfill personnel will periodically inspect the contents of trucks and trailers. All drivers are required to fully cooperate with site inspectors so as not to delay landfill operation. Any part of a load that is rejected will be reloaded onto the vehicle by the customer and removed from the landfill property.
- This landfill cannot accept prohibited wastes. Examples include: hazardous wastes (as defined by the US Environmental Protection Agency), Class I wastes (as defined by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality), liquid wastes, lead-acid batteries, wastes containing polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB), used oil, used oil filters, infectious wastes and used tires.
- The driver is responsible for removing any tires found in their load.
- Allied Waste Industries is not responsible for any damage incurred by vehicles while using the landfill facility.
- At no time will scavenging or salvaging be permitted.

#### **What does it cost to dump debris at the landfill?**

Rates are subject to change. Call the landfill at (817) 478-6462 to verify prices and types of payment accepted.

#### **What may not be dumped at the landfill?**

- Tires
- Barrels
- Auto parts
- Liquid waste
- Used oil and oil filters
- Hazardous waste such as batteries or explosives
- Refrigerators, air conditioners or freezers that contain Freon® or other coolants

If you need to dispose of these items, see sections in this guide concerning the Environmental Collection Center or Drop-off Stations or consult telephone directories for disposal options.

#### **Where is the Southeast Landfill and when is it open?**

The Southeast Landfill is located at 6288 Salt Road. The entrance is off of South Frontage Road at I-20, east of Anglin Road (Mapsco 93T). It is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Saturdays. Hours are subject to change. Call (817) 478-6462 to confirm hours of operation and costs.

Other private landfills are available and may be more convenient for you. Check telephone directories for more information.